

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and **Read** all over

Friday, September 23, 2022 | 18 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 164



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SYMPHONY TO DOCK IN FM



Photo courtesy American Cruise Lines

The freshly christened American Symphony will be making a stop in Fort Madison Sunday morning. The vessel is on its inaugural cruise from New Orleans to St. Paul.

GREETERS: Chamber putting on a public greeting with ceremony honoring new boat

PCC Staff

FORT MADISON — American Cruise Lines proudly announces that American Symphony, the newest riverboat on the Mississippi, begins cruising the Upper River for the first time this week, arriving in Fort Madison, Iowa, on Sunday, September 25th. Christened in Natchez, Mississippi, on August 30th, 2022, the brand new riverboat is currently sailing the company's longest river cruise itinerary, a 22-Day Complete Mississippi River Cruise from New Orleans, Louisiana, to St. Paul, Minnesota.

American Cruise Lines has been cruising the Mississippi River for

over a decade and has specialized in all-domestic cruising for over 30 years. The company has grown to become the country's largest U.S. cruise line and will have 17 small ships and riverboats exploring 34 states in 2023. American Symphony is the 5th new modern riverboat American Cruise Lines has launched on the Mighty Mississippi in just the past 4 years, indicating the company's strong leadership and ongoing commitment to the growth and development of ports and communities along the length of the River from

See **BOAT**, page 6



Former FMHS Principal Greg Smith was the Grand Marshal of the 2022 Homecoming Parade Thursday evening through downtown Fort Madison. The Bloodhounds crowned Mateo Lozano and Kay Quittem as the Homecoming King and Queen in Central Park following the parade.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Miracle on 34th Street OFP holds auditions for Christmas production

FORT MADISON - Old Fort Players is thrilled to announce the Christmas production for their 2022/2023 Season "Miracle on 34th Street, the Play", Adapted by Mountain Community Theater from the novel by Valentine Davies. Based upon the Twentieth Century Fox motion picture Miracle on 34th Street. Produced by Special Arrangement with Dramatic Publishing, Woodstock IL. The show performs December 2-4 & 9-11, 2022.

Auditions will be held on Monday, September 26 and Tuesday September 27 from 5-7 pm at the theater's downtown location at 725 Avenue G.

The show calls for all ages and types to fill the large cast. Don't let shyness or inexperience hold you back! There will be lots of other cast members to help you get over the opening night jitters. It's a great experience for the entire family to do together under the experienced direction of Richar Abel. Auditions will consist of cold readings of the script. No preparation or theater experience is required.

"This is a tale that we want to believe in, that creates a world we seem to desperately desire, free of the blatant commercialism that surrounds us, where love and decency and generosity of spirit are their own rewards. What we want Christmas to be all about, really." So writes the Santa Cruz Sentinel of this most heartwarming holiday story.

By chance, Kris Kringle, an old man in a retirement home, gets a job working as Santa for Macy's. Kris unleashes waves of good will with Macy's customers and the commercial world of New York City by referring parents to other stores to find exactly the toy their child has asked for.

Seen as deluded and dangerous by Macy's vocational counselor, who plots to have Kris shanghaied to Bellevue Psychiatric Hospital, Kris ends up in a court

See **OFP**, page 3

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WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap

FRI 23 Sep Cool with chance of showers, 60° F/ 52° F ☁
SAT 24 Sep Sunny and cool, 77° F/ 56° F ☀
SUN 25 Sep Sunny and cool, 71° F/ 49° F ☀

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LOTTO AMERICA 09/21 6 32 38 43 45, Star Ball: 8 All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 09/21 8 19 25 28 35, Lucky Ball: 10
PICK 3 09/21 MIDDAY 214
PICK 3 09/21 EVENING 7 2 7
PICK 4 09/21 MIDDAY 9 0 4 5
PICK 4 09/21 EVENING 19 6 5
POWERBALL 09/21 6 33 34 45 54, Powerball: 7 Power Play: 2

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

NORMAN L. FORSTER

Norman Lewis Forster, 87, died extremely unexpectedly at his home in Bettendorf on September 15, 2022. He was six days shy of his 88th birthday. He was active, on the move, and planning fun things for the future through his final hours.



FORSTER

Norman was born on September 21, 1934, in Roseville, Illinois, the youngest of three children born to Parks Kingsley and Florence Irene (Hedges) Forster. The family moved a lot when Norm was young before settling in Fairfield, Iowa. Norm graduated from Fairfield High School in 1953, where he excelled at academics and sports, including playing in the 1953 State Football Championship game where he “threw blocks up and down the field.” With his father, he farmed and also worked on some of his inventions, including Forster Hybrid Seed Corn, which, upon his dad’s death in 1966, was acquired by Pioneer Seed Corn. Norm’s family relocated to Houghton, Iowa during his senior year, but he continued to commute until graduation. It was in Houghton that Norm met “the girl across the street,” Carol Kathleen Dingman, who he would end up marrying.

Norm knew he was going to get drafted, so he enlisted in the Navy. Upon performing very well on the intelligence exams, he was quickly promoted to Communications Electrician on the ship. Norman spent time in Santa Barbara, Hawaii, Midway Island, Japan, Taiwan, Guam, Hong Kong and The Philippines during his two years of service. He saw and experienced so much and had many tales to tell.

Upon discharge, Norm married Carol on June 7, 1958, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Houghton, Iowa. Norm converted to Catholicism shortly before their wedding. They were blessed with 64 wonderful years of marriage. The couple lived in Madison, Wisconsin while Norm attended school. He graduated with a Major in Business and Minors in Mathematics and Economics from The University of Wisconsin- Madison.

Once Norm graduated from the University of Wisconsin, he accepted a job with Air Force Logistics Command in Milwaukee, Wisconsin with the AC Electronics Division of General Motors. There, he monitored contracts for space and missile guidance and navigation systems, which included work on

Apollo 11. He served a long career with the Federal Government, which allowed Carol and him to live in a number of different cities. He had many good traveling stories from his days visiting Army Ammunition Plants across the country. Eventually, Norm transferred to the Rock Island Arsenal and this is where he would finish out his career. It was in Bettendorf on January 7, 1981, that the pride and joy of Norm’s life, Caroline Claire, was born. He was the best dad who wore his love on his sleeve. He spent countless hours playing, serving as her hair model, swimming, chauffeuring, going to sporting events, theatre and music events, playing tennis, traveling, shopping, building elaborate science experiments and doing anything else Caroline wanted to do. He served as Caroline’s role model and the person she knew she could always turn to for sound advice and lots of fun.

Norm retired from the Federal Government on January 31, 1994, after serving 33 years as a Civil Servant for the Navy and Army. His final position was Chief of Project Planning Control for the Army Armament Munitions and Chemical Command, although he served in many roles throughout his career. After retiring, Norm served as Business Manager at Our Lady of Lourdes for eleven years, as sitting around never suited him and he found golf boring. The second and third great joys of Norm’s life were born on March 30, 2013 and July 6, 2017. Ronan and Claire were best friends with their Pa. Continuing the tradition of being a constant playmate, chauffeur and entertainer, their favorite thing to do was to go to Pa and Ma’s. The love, patience and fun he showed them was amazing. He wore his title of Pa with pride and the kids were so lucky to have the best. He spent countless hours playing, entertaining, teaching, talking, watching cartoons, taking them swimming and to the park, having movie nights, watching their shows and, as he would say, “constantly feeding them.” They will have to learn to make his famous “midnight” snacks and carry on all of his special traditions.

Norm’s whole world was his wife, daughter and grandkids. He was a provider and always made sure they were well taken care of until the last day of his life. He was kind, intelligent, patient, humble (so this obituary would completely embarrass him) and a man of great integrity and values. He always stood up for what was right. He was reliable, dependable and always early. He had a dry wit and was a faithful Green Bay Packers and Iowa Hawkeyes fan. He loved going to Northern Michigan in the summer and introduced this love to Caroline, Ronan and Claire. One crowning achievement was he could drink a beer while standing on his head. There will never be another man like Norm.

Norman Lewis is survived by his wife: Carol Kathleen (Dingman) of Bettendorf; daughter: Caroline Claire Sullivan and her husband Eric Michael Sullivan; grandchildren: Ronan Forster Sullivan and Claire Kelly Sullivan all of Chicago, and his sister: Helen Forster of Webster Groves, Missouri. He is also survived by nieces: Bonnie (Dale) Frels and Peggy Parrish, sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law: Mary Ann McGuire (the late Bernie) of St. Louis, Jeanne (Greg) Pieper of St. Paul, Iowa, Missy (the late Bernard John) Dingman of Scottsdale, Dorothy McLaughlin (Michael) of St. Louis, Margaret (John) Rector of Buckeye, Arizona, Jeffrey (the late Laura Dingman) Stuffings of Longmont, Colorado and by numerous Dingman nieces and nephews.

Norm was preceded in death by his parents: Parks Kingsley and Florence Irene (Hedges) Forster; sister and her husband: Lois (Forster) and Vernon Parrish; his mother and father-in-law: Bernard and Claire (Kelly) Dingman; infant granddaughter; Kathleen Therese Sullivan and nephew: Mark Pieper. We know they were waiting with open arms to greet Norm in Heaven. We were not prepared or ready to say good-bye and we will continue to love and miss him so much.

A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:30 am, Thursday, September 29, 2022, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Houghton, Iowa with Father Dan Dorau and Father Bruce DeRammelaere as concelebrants. Burial will follow in St. John’s Cemetery, Houghton with full military rites presented by the West Point American Legion Holtz - Geers Post #668. In lieu of flowers, please say a prayer for Norman or have Masses dedicated. Memorials may be made in Norman’s honor to St. John’s Catholic Church. Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

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Obituaries/From the Front

OBITUARIES

BLAKELY M. LYNCH

Blakeleigh Myra Lynch was born into heaven on Monday, September 19, 2022, at 12:59 a.m., the daughter of Darek Lynch and Victoria Daniels at the University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City, IA.



LYNCH

Blakeleigh was loved and cherished from the moment her family knew she was expected. They will spend a lifetime of tomorrows loving her and she will hold a special place in their hearts that is only for her.

She is survived by her mother, Victoria Daniels of Keokuk, her father, Darek Lynch of Keokuk, one sister, Addy Lynch of Keokuk and one brother, Parker Lynch of Keokuk. She is also survived by her paternal grandparents, Toni Peterson (Michael) of Ft. Madison, IA and Jim Lynch (Jamie) of Kahoka, MO, maternal grandparents, Tara Boley of Keokuk, and Troy Daniels (April) of Keokuk, great-grandparents, Cheryl and Bob Clabby, Richard Moore (Jane), Steve Boley and Terry Daniels (Patty) all of Keokuk and Howard Billingsley (Twila) of Farmington, IA, great-great-grandfather, Hap Lynch and great-great-grandmother, Rose Boley, aunts and uncles, Marissa Daniels of Keokuk, Shelby Stewart of Rolla, MO, Andrea Owen (Cameron) of Ft. Madison, IA, Alex Owen (Andrea) of Kahoka, MO, Billy Lynch (Hannah) of Keokuk and Dakota Lynch (Ambria) of Kahoka, MO.

She was preceded in death by her great-grandmother, Myra Boley and numerous other family members.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor Derek Olsen officiating.

Visitation will be held prior to the service from 1-2 p.m., Saturday, at the funeral home with family meeting with friends at that time.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

Pen City Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting fee.

Actors, volunteers and sponsors sought for play

OFP - Continued from Page 1

competency hearing. Especially at stake in the dramatic courtroom scene is one little girl's belief in Santa.

In addition to looking for actors and volunteers for the crew and theater staff, OFP is looking for sponsors for this show and others in the upcoming season. Send a Facebook message, email (oldfortplayersfm@gmail.com) or leave a message on the theater voicemail (319-372-9559) if you are interested.

"Miracle on 34th Street, the Play", Adapted by Mountain Community Theater from the novel by Valentine Davies. Based upon the Twentieth Century Fox motion picture Miracle on 34th Street. Produced by Special Arrangement with Dramatic Publishing, Woodstock IL. The show performs December 2-4 & 9-11, 2022. Friday and Saturday shows begin at 7:30 and the Sunday matinee begins at 2:00 pm. Adult tickets are \$15, Senior, Vet & Military are \$12, and Students are \$10. You can reserve a seat by phone or Facebook Messenger.

The theater is located in downtown Fort Madison at 725 Avenue G. Send a Facebook message, send an email to oldfortplayersfm@gmail.com or call 319-372-9559 for more information. Like them on Facebook (Fb@oldfortplayers) or visit www.oldfortplayers.com to keep up with everything that's going on at the theater.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
LEE COUNTY BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
August 1, 2022**

The Lee County Board of Supervisors met at the Lee County Administration Building in Fort Madison on Monday, August 1, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Matt Pflug, Garry Seyb, Ron Fedler, Rick Larkin, Charles Holmes.

All votes are unanimous unless indicated otherwise.

The Board opened the meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Larkin, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Public Input: Valarie Natoli, Timberlane Drive, spoke about security and drainage issues on the walking trail going past her house towards Rodeo Park. She also expressed concern with the county giving \$100,000 to the Fort Madison Marina Project.

Moved by Holmes, seconded by Seyb, to approve Resolution #2022-78. Roll call: Holmes-aye, Seyb-aye, Larkin-aye, Fedler-aye, Pflug-aye.

**RESOLUTION
2022 - 78**

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FUNDING FOR RIVERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Madison has invested significant funds and resources into developing its riverfront; and,

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Supervisors has recognized this effort and wishes to invest in this community development project; and,

WHEREAS, quality of life issues are not only essential but are critical to efforts to recruit and retain business and industry; and,

WHEREAS, the money committed by Lee County will be used to leverage additional federal funding in an amount far greater than is being committed; and,

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Supervisors has the authority under Chapter 15A.1, Code of Iowa, to "determine that a public purpose will reasonably be accomplished by dispensing funds that should attract, retain, or expand businesses which generate tourism-related activities".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lee County Board of Supervisors hereby appropriates the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars Payable Twenty Thousand Dollars a Year for Five Years to the Southeast Iowa Aquatic Restoration Group for the benefit of the Fort Madison Riverfront Redevelopment Program.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rick Larkin, Member; /s/ Charles Holmes, Member; Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Holmes, to approve an Urban Renewal Authorization Letter to the City of Fort Madison regarding the property for the Health/EMS Building. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Larkin, to approve the Monday, July 25, 2022 Board Minutes. Motioned carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Holmes, to approve the payment of claims. Motion carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Holmes, to approve a new hire (replacement) for the Recorder's office, Sandra Barker, Records Clerk, \$17.02/hr. effective 8/22/2022 and a change from part-time to full-time for Bryor

McMillen, EMT, \$19.15/hr. effective 8/17/2022. Motion carried.

Received and filed the Veteran Affairs Quarterly Report for April through June 2022; the Semi Annual Settlement of the Board of Supervisors for the period January 1 through June 30 2022 and a Manure Management Annual Update for Granat LLC in Washington Township.

Committee Reports: Larkin reported on a landfill meeting, a pipeline webinar and a Lee County Economic Development Board meeting. Seyb reported on the Lee County Economic Development meeting, a Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission meeting and updated the Supervisors on the Breeder Ordinance status. Holmes reported he toured the Lee County Economic Development building and had a Disability Access Work Force Board meeting.

Pflug reported on a landfill meeting. At 10:35 a.m. a motion was made by Holmes, seconded by Larkin, to adjourn. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 8, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Administration Building in Fort Madison.

Matt Pflug, Chairman
Attest: Denise Fraise,
Lee County Auditor

**Claims paid
August 1, 2022**

Access Enrgy, svcs 235.00
Access Svstms, svcs 51.92
Ace Hardware, sfty 219.99
Advd Crctnl Hlth, svcs 305.76
Agriland FS, Fuels 1641.04
Airgas USA, splys 240.47
Alliant Enrgy, svcs 6108.64
Am Legion, rent.. 1200.00
Amerigroup, rfnd... 593.39
AMI Pipe/Sply, splys

..... 125.05
Animal House, splys 11.40
B Bonar, exps 200.00
Bound Tree Med, splys 7786.63
R Bradley/Sons, svcs 130.00
Calhoun-Burns, svcs 1341.60
CenturyLink, svcs 9.13
City/Donnellson, wtr 115.18
Comm Action, svcs 861.00
Cordray Htg/Clg, parts 486.32
Democrat Co, publ 133.00
Dly Gate City, publ 178.84
C Davis, exps 32.30
Dodd Prtg/Stat, splys 177.95
Drake Hdwr, equip 5369.40
WR Faeth Whsle, splys 180.72
Farm/Home, splys 770.16
R Fedler, exps 65.00
Floorcrafters, svcs 20.00
Floyds EZ Way, svcs 75.00
FM Water, svcs..... 4454.01
FrenchReneker, svcs 1967.50
GeoComm, svcs 10869.00
Grt Prairie AEA, svcs 407.50
GRRWA, svcs..... 54.60
Great-West Trust, svcs 1050.00
Hancock Co Hlth, svcs 667.50
Hartricks Lumber, parts 2.99
Henry Co Sheriff, svcs 56.00
Huffman Wldng, splys 182.25
Ideal Ready Mix, splys 16133.75
Ilmberger Entrps, rent 300.00
Inst. IA Cert Assrs, edu 830.00
IA Wrkfrc Dvlp, chgs 3981.88
Jet Gas, fuel 3560.48
Jireh Inc, fuel 193.95
Jhnsn Co Shrrff, svcs 38.17
JW Medical, equip 2143.00
P Kaltefleiter, exps.. 60.00
Rvrfrnt Brdctg, publ 200.00

Keo Water, svcs 848.83
King-Lynk Fnrl, svcs 1200.00
Klingner Assoc, svcs 9677.05
Khlmrgn Hlg, svcs .. 979.25
R Kuntz, svcs 200.00
LeeCo Atty, exps... 623.99
LeeCo Econ Dvpl, cntrb 70000.00
LeeCo Sheriff, svcs 1953.57
LeeCo Treas, costs 32954.31
Liberty Util, gas..... 30.00
Maximus, svcs..... 3773.00
Metal Culverts, mtrl 5923.50
Meyers Drwy, svcs 750.00
MidAm Enrgy, gas 516.42
MW Grp Bnfts, costs 921.20
R Millmier, exps 77.05
MVSP, unif 32.00
OMG MW, svcs 377.76
PCC Amblnc, svcs 4336.43
Penn City Assc, dues 300.00
Prairie Farms, splys 228.00
Qlity Plus Feeds, mtrl 106.38
Quill Corp, splys 33.58
Rapids Repr, splys.. 62.79
Rathbun Water, svcs 150.50
Red Bud Invstmnts, rent 1100.00
Reserve Acct, pstg 1200.00
L Roxberg, rent..... 300.00
RSM US, svcs 633.00
Sandy Fire Sply, unif 2026.50
GSeyb, exps 54.00
Sherwin Williams, splys 92.30
Shottenkirk, svcs 272.95

SIACC, svcs 979.97
SE IA Reg Medical, svcs 216.42
C Spann, exps 40.00
K Spear, exps 16.50
P Spiekermeier, exps 42.00
Staples, splys 400.17
Stryker Sales, equip 16914.71
TriSt Crt Rprt, svcs 144.00
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Verizon, svcs 1221.10
Vigen Mmrl Home, svcs 1200.00
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Sports/ From the Front

Symphony follows Melody to FM

BOAT - Continued from Page 1

St. Paul to New Orleans.

American Cruise Lines regularly offers over 10 different Mississippi itineraries which include cruises along the Ohio and Cumberland Rivers, plus holiday and theme cruises. The company's river cruises regularly visit Upper Mississippi ports and towns an average of 28 times each per season. Visits in the region continue to increase, as American's fleet consistently expands every year, adding capacity and itineraries along the Upper River. American's U.S. fleet has more than doubled in the past 5 years alone.

"American Cruise Lines led the last decade of Mississippi River cruising, and with new riverboats like American Symphony, we look forward to leading the next one. We remain committed to introducing new small riverboats each year which enables us to deliver personalized all-American river cruises along the country's most iconic river," said Charles B. Robertson, President & CEO of American Cruise Lines.

In just the past few years, the company has transformed the U.S. river cruise

market to compete on a global scale by launching new state-of-the-art riverboats every year since 2018. All ships offer 100% outward-facing staterooms and the Line's acclaimed Modern Series riverboats offer 100% private balcony accommodations. American offers 100% domestic itineraries across the country and has aggressively grown its U.S. fleet, but has continued to keep each ship very small—all are under 190 passengers, which is especially important to the experience they deliver on the Mississippi River.

"We have many new luxurious riverboats and a record number of guests who are excited to explore the Mississippi River with us. The demand we are seeing is due in large part to the beautiful new riverboats, but also to the long-established relationships American Cruise Lines has with the ports and towns along the entire river. These relationships help us to consistently deliver authentic American experiences, which are curated and led by local experts, guides, and community members whom we have worked with for many years," said Frank

Klipsch, American Cruise Lines Director of City Partnerships & Special Projects.

American Symphony follows the acclaimed 2021 debut of sister ship American Melody, and it will be followed in early 2023 by a 6th Modern Series riverboat, sister ship American Serenade. American Symphony is the 9th riverboat in American Cruise Lines' fleet for 2022, which includes 4 classic paddlewheelers and 5 modern riverboats, plus 5 small cruise ships.

Accommodating 175 guests, American Symphony features 5 decks and offers 100% private balcony staterooms, including gracious suites and single staterooms. The new riverboat has an elegant design which employs a stunning use of glass, allowing for unparalleled views throughout the ship. American Symphony also showcases American's Modern Series hallmark—patented opening bow and retractable gangway, as well as the gorgeous 5th deck skywalk with an ellipse skylight, which cantilevers dramatically over the 4th deck café below. American Symphony also offers spacious lounges inside and out, a grand dining room, fitness center, and a wellness-yoga studio.

Crusaders advance to SEISC finals at SCC

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

WINFIELD — Holy Trinity's volleyball team has accomplished everything it wanted from this week to this point.

Now the Crusaders are where they want to be — in the final round of the SEI Superconference tournament.

Holy Trinity swept through the opening night of the tournament on Thursday, defeating Highland and Pekin before rallying past host Winfield-Mount Union to advance to Saturday's eight-team final rounds at Southeastern Community College.

And the No. 12 (Class 1A) Crusaders are hoping to see some teams that they struggled with early in the season.

"There's a lot of motivation going into Saturday," outside hitter Mary Kate Bendlage said. "We have a lot of high hopes. We hope to see some teams we've lost to, because we have gotten a lot better."

"Saturday," coach Melissa Freesmeier said, "is going to be a big, big day."

The Crusaders have won six matches this week, starting with three victories in their own tournament on Monday. They started Thursday by defeating Highland 21-9, 21-6, then beat Pekin 21-14, 21-8.

They would have to rally against Winfield-Mount Union, though. They lost the first set 21-16, then defeated the Wolves 21-14, 15-8 to finish the night undefeated.

"We got down in that first set," Freesmeier said. "Three weeks ago we would have lost and went home. I'm just excited about where we're going and how the kids have grown."

The Crusaders played most of that final

match without Brooke Mueller, who was injured earlier in the evening and tried to keep playing. She left the court after the first game, but Freesmeier was able to find help off the bench.

"I think tonight we showed we could handle adversity," said Bendlage, who had 20 kills. "With Brooke being out, she's a big part of the team. But we had a lot of people step up."

"I just like the way everybody stepped up tonight," Freesmeier said. "We've been talking all year about handling adversity, and we had a lot of it tonight. And our kids were very mature. They stayed settled. They got the job done."

Presley Myers, a freshman middle hitter, led the Crusaders with 26 kills. Kayla Box had eight kills. Mueller had seven. Taegan Denning had four.

Sophomore Anna Bendlage had 58 assists in three matches as she continues to grow into her role as the Crusaders' setter.

"Anna just keeps getting better and better," Freesmeier said.

Mueller was 24-of-24 serving with six aces. Taegan Denning was 26-of-26 serving with six aces. Anna Bendlage was 18-of-18 with four aces.

Mary Kate Bendlage had 19 digs and three blocks. Teagan Snaadt had 15 digs. Anna Bendlage had 14 digs. Mueller had seven digs. Myers had three digs and four blocks.

"I'm just proud of the whole total team effort," Freesmeier said.

It's the longest winning streak of the season for the Crusaders.

"From the start, we've really turned a corner and showed what we can do," Mary Kate Bendlage said. "We're just going to keep continuing to get better."

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Thank you for investing \$18 million in Iowa's airports.

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Thank you for the expanded direct payments to Iowa families.

**Thank you for investing in our counties across Iowa,
including \$6.5 million in Lee County.**

**Kim Reynolds called the American Rescue Plan Act
a "Blue State Bailout", but is happy to give ARPA money
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Rebecca **BOWKER** *for* **IOWA HOUSE**



- **I support teachers, paraeducators, and those who put our children first**
- **I support and value labor that has built southeast Iowa**
- **I support and recognize families need child care, transportation, and leaders who listen**

“ *I grew up knowing what it is like to not have it all. I recognize that everyone deserves a fair shot, not to be judged by color, clothing, or the balance of their bank account. Southeast Iowans are not lazy, so why cut unemployment? Southeast Iowans want to work, so why not raise the threshold for child care assistance? Southeast Iowans are the future, why not fund education to the fullest? My friends and neighbors, we love this community – that is why I ask for your support now and in November.* **”**

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Donna Amandus

For County Supervisor



“I will continue to work hard to improve the quality of life for the people of Lee County”

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Michael L. Fitzgerald, State Treasurer

The Triple “A” Candidate

Mission

Keep the Money Safe

Approach to Government

As state treasurer, my focus has been working for Iowans and keeping the state’s money safe. My approach has been consistent. Hire professional staff, focus on efficiency and promote fiscal responsibility.

Accomplishments

It has been a great honor to work for Iowans. I am proud of our accomplishments which have made a difference in the lives of Iowans. As state treasurer, I’ve returned over \$249 million through the Great Iowa Treasure Hunt, helped over 200,000 families save \$6 billion in College Savings Iowa and introduced the IAble savings plan for persons with disabilities.

Agenda

As state treasurer, I have expanded the duties and scope of the state treasury through innovative programs and advanced technology. I will continue to keep Iowa’s money safe, fight to create a retirement savings plan to help everyday Iowa employees gain access to retirement solutions and keep a vigilant eye on IPERS.

Summary

*I have a passion to serve Iowans as their state treasurer.
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John Norwood for Secretary of Agriculture

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“

Iowa Republican policies are making the Reynolds Workforce Crisis substantially worse, in four specific ways:

- (1) Attacking public schools and false accusations of having a “sinister agenda.”*
- (2) Continued attacks on Labor rights and unemployment benefits.*
- (3) Refusing to fix our state’s worst-in-the-nation childcare crisis.*
- (4) Driving people out of the state with their relentless culture war.*

Iowa Republicans have spent 2022 pouring gasoline on the flames of the culture war and made many of these challenges much worse.

”

Senator Zach Wahls, Iowa Senate Minority Leader

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themselves the
education of the
whole people and be
willing to bear the
expense of it.”

John Adams
2nd President
of the United States

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